
Elijah

Doing all you can with all you are!



• Elijah bursts on the scene in 1 Kings 17. We know little about his background or training. What we do know is that the wickedness of his day surpassed anything Israel had ever known before. Ahab the king of the Northern Kingdom (Israel) had distinguished himself as the most wicked king on record, and those under his rule were traveling without restraint down the road of gross immorality, idolatry, and pagan worship. God's answer was to raise up a man who would courageously stand and speak for Him. That man was Elijah.

- Elijah, and his successor Elisha, occupy the second of only three eras in history during which God chose to accomplish the miraculous through the agency of human individuals. The first was the time of Moses, and the last was the time of Jesus and the Apostles. Except for these times, God's miraculous activity has been carried out apart from human agency.
- Elijah is described by James as a man with "a nature like ours" (James 5:17). In fact, this could be said about every person ever born except for Jesus Himself! But James' comment reminds us that God has chosen to accomplish His divine rescue of Creation through a partnership with the very broken ones He is rescuing!
- Elijah was such a strong spokesman for the Lord that he is used to pre-figure the prophet who, as the last of the OT prophets, would have the privilege of announcing the coming of Messiah Himself. Malachi predicts this (Malachi 4:5) and Jesus confirms that John the Baptist is, in fact, the "Elijah" that is to come (Matthew 11:14).
- Elijah's amazing story, including his times of triumph and his times of despair, is found in 1 Kings 17 - 2 Kings 2.
- Pastor David has written a self-contained Bible Study through the life of Elijah complete with commentary and study questions, called Elijah: A Steady Voice in a Shifting World. It may be ordered through the church office for \$10/copy.

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Doing All You Can With All You Are
1 Kings 16-2 Kings 2

Introduction: Elijah, one of the greatest men of the Old Testament era, was privileged to accomplish great and miraculous things for God. Yet, his times of discouragement remind us that James was right to describe him as having "a nature like ours" (5:17). The life of Elijah reminds us that God wants to do extraordinary things through ordinary people, but only as they determine to do all they can with all they are!

Elijah: A life in review

1 Kings 16 - 2 Kings 2

Life and Times
Call and Confirmation
Courage and Competition
Despondency and Direction
Final Chapters

GOD: LIFE LESSONS

ABOUT GOD

ABOUT US

JESUS CHRIST: LIFE FOCUS

Jesus Christ: God's answer to the brokenness of all creation.

Jesus Christ: The Creator became as the creation, living in the "ordinariness" of this world in order to reclaim and rescue all creation for the glory of God.

Jesus Christ: In the garden of Gethsemane, under the anguish of impending death for sin, our Savior - "for the joy set before Him" - chose the path of obedience, and procured for us forgiveness of sin and life everlasting.

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GOD: LIFE LESSONS

ABOUT GOD

God’s answer to the chaos of this broken world is often an individual who will stand and speak for Him.

God does extraordinary things through ordinary, obedient people.

God is faithful to the fallen and never deserts His own.

ABOUT US

The benefits of obedience are often greatest when the cost is the highest.

We must be vigilant so that erroneous thoughts and feelings do not keep us from being used by God in His world.

In times of great despair and challenge, the pathway back to joy is found in submission to the revealed will of God.

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